



**Louise A. Perez, Executive Director
Community Resource Project, Inc.**

Louise A. Perez has more than thirty-five years of management experience. Her employment has been in the public, private and non-profit worlds. She has developed expertise in education, health, housing, and employment and training programs. Only the second director in CRP's thirty-five-year history, Ms. Perez has been the Executive Director for more than twenty years and has been the driving force behind the company's tremendous growth.

In 1986, CRP's Board of Directors hired Ms. Perez to strengthen the financial security of the agency and to expand the services provided. At the time, CRP had 13 employees and an operating budget of \$300,000. She focused the energies of the agency on health, housing and education, knowing that stability in these areas is essential to assist families to move from dependence to self sufficiency. Due to the leadership and commitment to hard work she has demonstrated, CRP has become an agency with a reputation for dependability and integrity, and most importantly, a commitment to helping families and children achieve self-worth, dignity and independence. As one colleague said, "Her vision for what all children can become and her reputation for integrity, throughout her career, have been the foundation for Louise's reputation as an extremely capable and effective leader." CRP currently has an operating budget of more than six million dollars and provides nearly twenty million dollars of services to families in Sacramento, Sutter, and Yuba counties each year.

Ms. Perez has developed a model for the delivery of services, known as the Family Learning Center. Within this Family Learning Center, CRP serves the needs of the entire family in a holistic manner. Because she understands that no one agency can "do it all," CRP includes other community-based organizations in the Family Learning Centers, in an effort to provide all of the needed services for a family under one roof. She has been considered visionary for her approach to problem solving and she has a strong commitment to utilizing her skills for those most in need because of her background.

Ms. Perez is a native Sacramentan, born into a migrant family. She attended the University of San Francisco and holds a California B General Contractors License. Her pride and joy is her family, especially her son and three precocious grandchildren.

Ms. Perez has served as an elected official. She was a member of the Board of Trustees for the Sacramento City Unified School District for fourteen years. She was a Board Member of the California School Boards Association, where she served as the first Latina President of that Association. Her colleagues have stated that "Louise exemplifies the kind of caring and concern for children and for all of humanity which should be the hallmark of all who serve in public education". She has been recognized by the Hispanic Journal as one of the 100 Most Influential Latinos in the country, and is listed in Manchester's Who's Who Among Executive and Professional Women.